being held with the Air Force for ten years' orders for the system. Such further requirements are planned to be executed by the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, based on technology transfer from DRDO.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The 'Lakshya' system has taken 14 years to develop; development of this system was successfully completed in 1994.

Rehabilitation of War Disabled

4163. SHRI P.N. SIVA : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities presently available for the rehabilitation of the war disabled; and

(b) the number of disabled benefited from these schemes during the last three years, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) and (b). The war disabled who are fit for civil jobs in Central Government Departments, are eligible on priority-I for employment against Groups 'C and 'D' posts, for which, recruitment is made through the Directorate General of Employment and Training. They can also avail of the benefit of loan assistance on liberalised terms under self-employment schemes to set up tiny/small scale industries, small scale service enterprises, undertake agriculture and allied activity, set up Khadi and Village Industries in rural areas. Besides, Queen Mary Technical Institute, Pune, a private charitable institution, conducts ITI recognised vocational trades training courses for disabled ex-Servicemen to facilitate their rehabilitation. In addition, paraplegic homes at Kirkee and Mohali are being run for rehabilitation of paraplegic and tetraplegic ex-Servicemen. Disabled soldiers are also provided artificial limbs by Artificial Limbs Centres.

Monetary Benefits:—The Armed Forces personnel disabled in war or war like operations are given war injury pension at the rate of reckonable emoluments last drawn if the degree of disablement is 100% and this is proportionately reduced if the disability is less than 100%. The disabled Officers/

Junior Commissioned Officers/Other Ranks, invalidated out of service, are covered under the Army Group Insurance Scheme for insurance amount ranging from Rs. 80,000 to Rs. 4 lakhs in the case of Officers and Rs. 37,500 to Rs. 1,87,500 in the case of Junior Commissioned Officers/Other Ranks, depending upon the level of disability.

The Armed Forces personnel boarded out of service due to injuries sustained in Kargil operation have been given *ex-gratia* grant from National Defence Fund, ranging from Rs. 3.0 lakhs to Rs. 6.0 lakhs, depending upon the level of injuries on completion of necessary procedural requirements. They have also been granted Rs. 5 lakhs from this fund for acquiring a dwelling unit for making addition/alterations/renovation of the existing units.

Information about the number of war disabled who have been benefited from the various schemes is not centrally monitored.

Indo-US Military Cooperation

4164. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that as reported in the 'Hindu' dated the 20th July, 2001, a new structure of military cooperation between the India and USA would be put in place by the year-end;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any formal communication from the U. S. Government has been received in this regard and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI KRISHNAMRAJU): (a) to (c) During the visit of the External Affairs Minister/ Raksha Mantri to USA in April 2001, the U.S. side expressed its commitment to further improving relations between India and USA including in the area of defence cooperation. India has also expressed its readiness to proceed with certain initiatives proposed by the U. S. The details of the structure of the institutional framework for defence cooperation remains to be finalised for which formal proposal would be sent by the US Government.